

1/26/84

Dear Eric -

As a followup of your Vattemare inquiry last week, I went through my continental material. Here's a listing of the Vattemare listed material should you need it for any purpose.

Verse 14 of the "History of Peru" has bothered me ever since you sent me the poem. I could not identify the second character in the verse -

"Shall I, citing a Convention-man
in a huff

Descend the the Moravian's Candles
to Snuff"

which you've attributed to George Schloner.

I recognize that Schloner was a radical leader in the German community. He was active as early as 1765 as a member of the Retailers' Committee ^{supporting (that's easier)} ~~approving~~ the Non-Importation

Agreed of that year. Subsequently, he was a member of the Committees of 19, 43, 100¹ and 100², a series of 1774 - 1776 pro-Independence committees which eventually transformed the Pennsylvania Assembly from a status quo to Independence stance. He also was a member of the ^(Constitutional) Convention for Independence. All of the preceding data support the attribution that he is the Moravian in Verse 14.
-- He also was known as a retail merchant and tanner.
However --

Frederick Kuhl, another Moravian radical leader -- who signed CC 5/10/75 -- and all other people ~~named~~ described in the poem signed either Pa. or CC currency (Schlauer would be the exception) also might be the "Moravian". Kuhl was an ~~major~~ important merchant, ~~running~~ operating a major

general store supplying everything from pins and nails to post, cider, clothes of all types, implements (hardware) etc. to a clientele ranging from Ben Franklin, Dan Roberdeau, George Washington (when he was in town) etc. His account journal is at the Phila. Historical Society listing his customers and their purchases. Kuhl ~~was~~ also was a member of both Committees of 100 and a member of the Independence (Constitutional, officially) Convention. The constitution that resulted from this Convention, which began 7/20/76 was the most ~~to~~ strongly independence ~~independent~~ ^{structured} constitution of any state of that era.

Because Kuhl's credentials are similar to Schlosier's and because he was both more prominent in the community and a signer of money, I'm inclined to think that the proper identification of the "Convention"

man's diatribe in verse 14
is Kuhl rather than Schlosser.
The odds seem to favor it.

Hope this hasn't been
too lengthy or too picaresque.

All the Best,

Joe